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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 4 November 1977 from the Permanent Representative of
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 4 November 1977 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Vedat Çelik, Minister of Defence and Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 28.

(Signed) İlter TÜRKMEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 4 November 1977 from Mr. Vedat Çelik
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to a letter dated 31 October 1977 addressed to Your Excellency by Mr. Zenon Rossides, the representative of the Greek Cypriot community and circulated as document A/32/316 of the General Assembly.

I do not feel that the letter in question, which contains many preposterous and totally unfounded allegations that have already been refuted by the Turkish Cypriot side and adequately recorded in official documents of the United Nations, merits a comprehensive reply, if at all. However, because it goes to the essence of the problem, I would like to comment on the fact that in his letter Mr. Rossides, in complete disregard of the constitutional and political realities, purports to venture outside the established framework for the settlement of the Cyprus problem.

By persistently denying the existence of two separate administrations in Cyprus, by overlooking the fact that a population exchange, which was actually implemented under the auspices of the United Nations, has taken place in accordance with the agreement reached at the third round of the Vienna talks and, especially, by disregarding the significant agreement reached between the leaders of the two communities, President Denktaş and the late Archbishop Makarios, for the establishment of a bi-communal, bi-zonal, non-aligned federal republic, the Greek Cypriot side is definitely frustrating efforts to find a viable solution to the Cyprus problem.

Such an approach is clearly incompatible with the alleged will of the Greek Cypriot side to negotiate with the Turkish Cypriot community with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable settlement. If this represents the established policy of the Greek Cypriot side, unfortunately prospects for an early solution will not improve.

It is high time that the Greek Cypriot side realized that the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, which was established as the Turkish Cypriot wing of the future Federal Republic of Cyprus, is in fact a reality and, particularly in view of the Denktaş-Makarios agreement for the establishment of a bi-communal, bi-zonal federal republic, is a legitimate entity. To deny this reality and to speak of a "bogus" or "fictitious" administration is not only absurd, but also goes to show the insincerity of the Greek Cypriot side. What is actually anomalous is the consistent refusal of the Greek Cypriot side to proclaim its own federated State as a first step towards the establishment of a partnership within a federal framework.

I should be grateful if this letter were to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 28.

(Signed) Vedat ÇELİK
Minister of Defence
and Foreign Affairs of the
Turkish Federated State of Cyprus